

## ABSTRACT

The Floating Blade Plectrum is a general purpose plectrum suitable for all types of acoustic guitar playing. It eliminates all the disadvantages of conventional plectra. It comprises a relatively short thick plastic 'blade' connected by a 'non-rigid attachment' to two 'rigidity layers' made of soft flexible rubber. These are enclosed between two 'grip layers' made of soft, flexible, non-slip rubber. Between the 'rigidity layers' and the 'grip layers' are two 'moment plates' made of thin rigid material. The plectrum is held in a pen-holding grip between the thumb and first finger. The grip remains constant, the rigidity of the plectrum is altered by varying the grip pressure. The presence of the 'moment plates' increases the sensitivity of the plectrum such that for a similar increase in grip pressure the rigidity of the plectrum is greater; the minimum rigidity is unaltered but the maximum rigidity is increased.